



NEWS RELEASE

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Combined Forces Air Component Command Airpower Statistics

Highlighted Decisive Airpower article:

Afghan Air Force pins wings on first fixed-wing class grads

by Capt. Agneta Murnan

438th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

10/19/2012 - **SHINDAND, AFGHANISTAN** --

Three Afghan Air Force pilot trainees became not only the first fixed-wing students to earn their wings in Afghanistan after 30 years -- on Oct. 15, they became the first pilots to complete the entire fixed-wing program entirely in Afghanistan since the beginning of the NATO air training mission for Afghanistan in 2007.

Through phases of English classes, Initial Flight Screening, countless hours of study, solo sorties, and carefully tracked flight time in the Cessna 182 and Cessna 208 at Shindand Air Base, AAF 1st Lts. Walid Noori, Emal Azizi and Khan Agha Ghaznavi have been writing pages in a chapter of AAF history.

The graduation took place in western Afghanistan in the wing headquarters of Shindand Air Base, hosting student pilots, mentors, instructors and base leadership from the AAF and Coalition team.

The pilots received their wings from AAF Maj. Gen. Mohammad Baqi, Shindand Air Wing commander; U.S. Air Force Col. David Gossett, 838th Air Expeditionary Advisory Group commander; and AAF Col. Hashem, Shindand Air Wing Training Group commander.

"Training and education. Training and education," said Baqi, an AAF veteran since 1973 and a pilot himself. "I've always spoken about these things as my personal message and focus."

The trio began IFS in December 2011, and worked through their course of study, including more than 250 hours in the simulator and the C-182 and C-208 aircraft. Various Coalition military and civilian instructors partnered to transition this first class through the phases of training.

"By no means has the road traveled been easy for these young men," Gossett explained. "To our graduates: make no mistake, the road you continue on will present challenges. However I am confident that you will step up and look for the opportunities in the challenges you face. Realize you are not alone.

For the full article or to download high resolution photographs, visit:

<http://www.afcent.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123322763>



Newly graduated Afghan Air Force pilots, 1st Lt.'s Walid Noori, Emal Azizi, and Khan Agha Ghaznavi, pose for a group photo after their ceremony Oct. 15, 2012 in the wing headquarters at Shindand Air Base, Afghanistan. The lieutenants became the first fixed-wing undergraduate pilot trainees to earn their wings in Afghanistan after more than 30 years, completing the entire fixed-wing program entirely in Afghanistan. (U.S. Air Force photo/Tech. Sgt. Quinton Russ)

Combined Forces Air Component Commander 2007-2012 Airpower Statistics

UNCLASSIFIED

As of 31 October 2012



Afghanistan

OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM/International Security Assistance Force

Close Air Support

Sorties		Sorties with at least one weapon release	
2009	27,815	2009	1,733
2010	32,928	2010	1,817
2011	34,286	2011	1,981
2012	25,035	2012	1,390

Number of Weapon Releases

Less Activity More Activity

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2009	163	203	364	465	456	442	384	445	254	541	238	208	4,163
2010	157	154	175	197	300	457	325	416	740	1,043	866	272	5,102
2011	405	341	337	339	426	610	695	516	597	661	308	174	5,409
2012	170	116	224	251	405	521	507	603	392	411			3,600

- Some figures may have changed due to data re-calculation and re-verification

Combined Data

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Intel, Surveillance and Recon Sorties	11,202	16,193	18,898	28,747	38,198	29,546
Airlift Sorties	56,179	51,945	52,905	63,324	58,914	32,160
Airlift Cargo (Short Tons)	270,007	251,738	264,839	298,079	230,230	201,434
Airlift Passengers	1,177,533	1,269,710	1,301,740	1,369,002	1,114,376	631,560
OEF Supplies Airdropped (Pounds)	8,182,066	16,576,297	32,267,606	60,400,000	75,956,235	31,557,283
Tanker Sorties	15,875	18,361	17,465	17,296	19,469	13,932
Fuel Offloaded (Millions of Pounds)	946	1,106	1,076	1,050	1,095	855
Aircraft Refueled	79,798	86,288	82,095	82,603	90,476	58,700
Casualty Evacuation Sorties	-	-	-	3,712	2,959	2,045
Saves	-	-	-	1,888	1,611	1,121
Assists	-	-	-	2,964	2,121	1,560

- Data not available

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